



Docket No. SP00-038A

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kirk P Bumgarner et al  
Serial No.: 10/800,551  
Filing Date: 03/15/2004  
Examiner: Langdon, Evan H  
Art Unit: 3654  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TENSILE TESTING  
AND RETHREADING OPTICAL FIBER DURING FIBER  
DRAW

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132

Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Kirk P. Bumgarner, declares as follows:

1. I am an applicant in the above-referenced patent application.
2. I am currently employed by Corning Incorporated in Wilmington, North Carolina as a Manufacturing Engineer Specialist in the Project Engineering Department. I am responsible for manufacturing engineering and process development. I joined Corning Incorporated as an Equipment Engineer in 1989. I have worked in either a process development or engineering capacity on methods for making optical fiber since 1989.
3. Before joining Corning Incorporated, I attended Old Dominion University where I earned Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology in 1989, and North Carolina State University where I earned a Master of Engineering degree in in 1995. I am a licensed Professional Engineer in the state Of North Carolina.

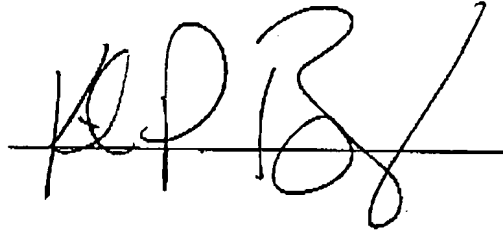
4. I am also an inventor on U.S. Patent Number 6,027,062, and consequently have witnessed and am very familiar with the operational efficiencies of both the process disclosed in U.S. Patent Number 6,027,062 and process disclosed in the present application.

5. Substituting an aspirator for the finger like positioning members utilized in U.S. Patent Number 6,027,062 will not cause less damage to fiber than simply following the teachings of U.S. Patent Number 6,027,062. In fact, both the process disclosed in U.S. Patent Number 6,027,062 and the process disclosed in the present application result in absolutely no damage to the fiber which is wound onto the storage spools.

6. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: February 27, 2007

Kirk P. Bumgarner, P.E.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KPB', is written over a horizontal line.